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News Release

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Corps of Engineers awards Anacostia River watershed stream restoration contract

Baltimore – The Baltimore District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded a \$1,154,421 contract for 3.2 miles of stream restoration work in the Anacostia River watershed to Environmental Quality Resources, Inc., of Gaithersburg, Md., on May 11, 2001.

The contract is part of a multi-year project among the Corps of Engineers, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, supporting the ongoing Anacostia watershed restoration.

The Anacostia contract involves the construction of bioengineering features to restore aquatic habitat and reduce streambank erosion in sections of Paint Branch, Northwest Branch, Sligo Creek and the Lockridge Drive tributary of Northwest Branch. These sections have been impacted by watershed development lacking adequate stormwater runoff controls. The project will restore riffle and pool habitat structure to support more diverse biological communities and stabilize excessively eroding stream banks in order to reduce sediment-loading impacts. Specific habitat restoration features to be implemented will include stone and log stream-bank protection, in-stream boulders, vernal pools, revetments and planting of native plant species.

Planning for the project began in the early 1990s and construction is expected to continue throughout 2002.

Environmental Quality Resources, Inc., is an environmental construction, small business firm with extensive restoration experience in the mid-Atlantic region.

Montgomery County has contributed cash, land and staff time totaling 25 percent of the project cost, with the federal government funding the remaining 75 percent.

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